

## Message Text

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 ISO-00 FEA-01 INT-05 MC-02

COME-00 TRSE-00 OPIC-03 CIEP-01 AID-05 OMB-01 L-02

PRS-01 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 /054 W

----- 052225

R 071308Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8495

INFO AMEMBASSY LIMA

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMCONSUL CALI

AMCONSUL MEDELLIN

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BOGOTA 4176

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: EAIR CO

SUBJECT: COLOMBIAN CIVAIR CONSIDERS PURCHASE OF SOVIET EQUIPMENT

REF: BOGOTA 2686

1. ACCORDING TO PRESS REPORTS ATTRIBUTED TO THE DEPT DIRECTOR OF CIVIL AVIATION (LUIS MURILLO), THE COLOMBIAN CIVIL AVIATION DEPARTMENT JEDAACL IS ACQUIRING FROM THE SOVIET UNION A WIDE RANGE OF AVIATION EQUIPMENT, INCLUDING TWO YAK-40 AIRCRAFT, NAVIGATIONAL AIDS, COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT, GROUND SUPPORT EQUIPMENT, AIRPORT FIREFIGHTING EQUIPMENT AND OTHER ITEMS. ONE OF THE YAK-40S WOULD BE UTILIZED FOR NAVIAD INSPECTION WHILE THE OTHER WILL BE AVAILABLE FOR PASSENGER AND FREIGHT SERVICE IN THE MORE REMOTE AREAS OF THE COUNTRY. THE TRANSACTION REPORTEDLY WOULD BE FINANCED BY A \$15 MILLION LOAN FROM THE SOVIET UNION.

2. US BUSINESS SOURCES, HOWEVER, STATE FLATLY THAT THE TRANSACTION HAS NOT RPT NOT BEEN CONCLUDED, AND SOME INTEND TO BID.

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WHEN CONTACTED BY THE EMBASSY, DAAC DIRECTOR ALFONSO CAICEDO

REFUSED TO CONFIRM THE PRESS REPORTS. ALTHOUGH ADMITTING THAT THE SOVIETS HAD OFFERED AVIATION EQUIPMENT DURING THEIR RECENT MISSION TO BOGOTA (BOGOTA2686), HE SAID THAT ANY SUCH TRANSACTION WOULD BE ON A GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT BASIS AND THAT FUTURE INQUIRIES SHOULD BE DIRECTED TO THE FOREIGN OFFICE#:&

3. COMMENT: WE HAVE LITTLE DOUBT THAT CAICEDO IS VERY INTERESTED IN ACQUIRING SOVIET EQUIPMENT. THE DAAC IS IN NEED OF AT LEAST ONE AIRCRAFT AS WELL AS CERTAIN NAVAIDS, AND GIVEN THE DEPARTMENTS POOR FINANCIAL CONDITION, ANY SUBSTANTIAL INVESTMENT WOULD REQUIRE LONG-TERM FINANCING, SUCH AS THAT OFFERED IN THE RECENT SOVIET-COLOMBIAN TRADE AGREEMENT. MOREOVER, CAICEDO IS RUMORED TO HAVE TRAVELLED TO THE SOVIET UNION RECENTLY AND ONE HIGH FOREIGN OFFICE OFFICIAL HAS DESCRIBED HIM AS COMPLETELY ENCHANTED BY THE SOVIETS AND WHAT THEY HAVE TO OFFER. AS NOTED, HOWEVER, US BUSINESS SOURCES SAY THE TRANSACTION IS FAR FROM BEING FINALIZED AND OPPORTUNITIES STILL EXIST FOR AMERICAN SUPPLIER, PROVIDED ADEQUATE FINANCING CAN BE ARRANGED.  
VAKY

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CIVIL AVIATION, PROCUREMENT, AIRCRAFT, PRESS COMMENTS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAY 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** GolinoFR  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
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**Document Number:** 1975BOGOTA04176  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
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**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Office:** ACTION EB  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
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**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** 75 BOGOTA 2686  
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**Review Authority:** GolinoFR  
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**Review Content Flags:**  
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**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** COLOMBIAN CIVAIR CONSIDERS PURCHASE OF SOVIET EQUIPMENT  
**TAGS:** EAIR, CO, UR  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 05 JUL 2006